



Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board

Minutes

Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board
September 2, 2009



The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Takako Wakita at 12:00. The Secretary was asked to call the roll and the following members were present: Takako Wakita, Chairperson; Wayne Hewitt, Vice Chairperson, Janet Baker, Recording Secretary; Marianne Freeman, Dingle, Ireland; David Gorbet, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; Mary Turley, Toba, Japan; Joe Cantrell, Weihai, China; Linda Gunther, Staff Representative. No representative from San Juan, Philippines was present. Guests: Carey Rogers, Dingle, Ireland.

Minutes of the July 1, 2009 meeting were approved on a motion duly made, seconded and carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Takako Wakita reported she received reports from all Sister Cities except Weihai, China for the Annual Report which she submitted in August. Takako said she still has not received confirmation from the Main Library for the display case in 2011, she submitted the request July 1st. Takako gave a brief report on the SCI Conference she attended in Belfast, Northern Ireland July 29 - August 1st. Attendance was down this year, 350 attended, plus 150 youth. She said 7 from Santa Barbara and 2 from Puerto Vallarta attended. Next year the Conference will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. After the Conference Takako visited Dingle, Ireland and she showed pictures of her trip there with some of the Dingle Sister City members.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

REVIEWS OF CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2010: Only addition is a planned teacher exchange to Weihai, China on August 16th to be led by Dr. Peter Haslund.

9-11 CONCERT: Takako will be chairing this event which will be held on September 11th at the Unitarian Society Hall and will be co-sponsored by the Santa Barbara Music Club who will be furnishing the entertainment and the Santa Barbara Sister Cities will provide the finger food for the reception to be held following the concert. She also encouraged them to bring brochures representing their Sister City to display. She hopes to get a lot of publicity for the concert and the new location and time will hopefully make for better attendance.

UNITED NATIONS DAY CELEBRATION: This annual event is scheduled for October 22nd at the Cabrillo Arts Center at 6:00 P.M. Those not bringing food will be charged \$15.00. Takako reported that she had made arrangements to have some Greek dancers and also a Japanese Dance group from Lompoc. She reminded the Representatives of the duties their groups are responsible for plus bringing four wrapped gifts for the Raffle and providing one person to sell tickets. Janet Baker and Wayne Hewitt will be manning the Registration table. Mark Hamilton will be the Master of Ceremonies. Invitations have been extended to Mayor Blum , City Council members and Catherine Dision of United Nations Organization to be our guests.

PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMUNITY TV (CH. 17): Takako called on Wayne Hewitt for a report on this project. Wayne reported that the Toba group has done quite a bit of work on this project but he hasn't gotten any input from the other groups as yet. It was decided that January 2010 will be the goal to have everything ready for this project. He would like each group to present about a five minute segment. Takako asked that Marianna Freeman, Dingle, Ireland, Linda Mathews, Toba, Japan, Joe Cantrell, Weihai, China and a representative from Puerto Vallarta, Mexico to meet with Wayne to finalize this program.

KOTOR, MONTENEGRO - NEW SISTER CITY TO SANTA BARBARA: Takako announced that Kotor, Montenegro was approved by the City Council at their meeting on August 25th to be the sixth Sister City to Santa Barbara. Takako, Janet Baker and David Gorbet represented the Board at the meeting. Linda Gunther said their name will be added to the Roll Call for the November meeting and they need to supply the name of their representative and an alternate in addition names of their Board members and how many General membership meetings they plan to have in the coming year for our records.

FISCAL YEAR 2010 BUDGET ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL: Linda Gunther reported the Sister Cities budget for 2010 had been cut to \$800.00 of which \$620.00 goes for SCI membership dues, which leaves \$180.00. Linda said she may be able to get the City to still pay \$200.00 toward the rental of the Cabrillo Arts Center for the United Nations Day celebration if the Sister Cities Board can pay the other \$100.00. Linda said a special Council meeting is set for September 8th to go over the Budget again and hopefully there be no more cuts to the Sister Cities budget.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Toba, Japan: Mary Turley reported the Toba group is sponsoring a bus trip to the Descanso Gardens in the Fall. New Years party will be on January 24, 2010. She showed a copy of Toba's new brochure. The Toba Student Exchange was cancelled this year due to the Swine Flu.

Weihai, China: Joe Cantrell reported that Dr. Peter Haslund has volunteered to be interim President and will organize a meeting in the near future. He said that Dr. Haslund was pleased with the success of the Teachers exchange and is planning another for next August.

Dingle, Ireland: Marianne Freeman reported that both Erin Graffy and Carey Rogers are back active with the group and hopefully will be able to get things going again. They are planning a membership meeting in October and possibly another trip to Dingle, Ireland in 2012.

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico: David Gorbet reported the contingent from Puerto Vallarta this year was much smaller than in the past. There were 23 members plus the Mayor and his family and two Police Officers. David said that Puerto Vallarta's Mayor met with Mayor Blum and representative from Marborg regarding getting another truck for Puerto Vallarta. Reservations for the annual trip to Puerto Vallarta must be paid in full by September 15th and it looks like there will be a smaller group going to Puerto Vallarta this year.

San Juan, Phillipines: No representative present.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Baker, Recording Secretary